

[Nimrod Ross]

AB[/?][bc?] Dup

FORM A Circumstances of Interview

NAME OF WORKER Albert Burks ADDRESS 239 So. 20th

DATE December 15, 1938 SUBJECT American Folk-lore

1. Name and address of informant [Nimrod?] Ross 2124 Q St.
2. Date and time of interview [Ced.?] 15, 1938. 4:30 p.m.—7:30 p.m
3. Place of interview Residence
4. Name and address of person, if any, who put you in touch with informant None
5. Name and address of person, if any, accompanying you None
6. Description of room, house, surroundings, etc. Shabby one-story bungalow. Parlor overcrowded with old-fashioned antique furniture. [C???

FORM B Personal History of Informant

NAME OF WORKER Albert Burks ADDRESS 239 So. 20th.

DATE December 15, 1938 SUBJECT American Folk-lore

NAME AND ADDRESS OF INFORMANT Nimrod Ross 2124 Q St.

1. Ancestry Negro

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2. Place and date of birth [Rutherford?] County, Tennessee. 1863
3. Family Two
4. Place lived in, with dates Morgan, [Mo.?], 20 years; Lincoln, 40 years.
5. Education, with dates Elementary school
6. Occupations and accomplishments, with dates Policeman [at?] Lincoln, Nebr., 1902-05. Turnkey at County jail, 1908-[1910?]. Caretaker for twenty-five years, to present.
7. Special skills and interests. Writing an historical data concerning the negro.
8. Community and religious activities Baptist Church
9. Description of informant Tall raw-boned, copper colored individual, with a trace of Indian blood showing in his features.
10. Other points gained in interview. Very interested in politics and strongly [decrys?] the fact that so many of his race, (the Negroes) have went in such large majorities to the [Cemocratic?] parties.

FORM C Test of Interview (Unedited)

NAME OF WORKER Albert Burks ADDRESS 239 So 20th St.

DATE Dec. 15, 1938 SUBJECT American Folk-lore

NAME AND ADDRESS OF INFORMANT Nimrod Ross 2124 Q St.

"I was just born in slavery, so I don't remember anything about it only what I've been told. I do recall that my mother told me that my great grandmother was an Indian and my great grandfather was a German.

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She was the daughter of a slave-holder. I know nothing of my father.

After the war we lived in a little log cabin in Rutherford County and farmed. I remember that the year before we left Tennessee, the boll-weevil and a two year drouth ruined the cotton crop and every other kind of gardening for that matter. It was so dry, that we boys and some of the men were sent out into the woods to kill snakes which we would hang on a line with their bellies facing the sun because it was believed that this would cause it to rain, "Hah, hah," I don't think doing this ever [rought?] rain, but it didn't keep the old timers from continuing to do this, even after we moved to [Missouri?].

I came to Lincoln over forty years ago when it was just a little burg. But things were a whole lot better for the colored folks then than they are now. I [was?] a city [policeman?] here for awhile and also 2 a deputy sheriff at the County jail.

I was able to give my boy a good education and he was one of the few Negroes to play on the University of Nebraska football team.

He's [practicing?] law now in Los Angeles. This job I'm now on as caretaker is really not a job at all because it was given to me as kind of a pension for life with little or no duties.

Church work now takes up most of my spare time, although I am [pretty?] much interested in [politics?].